





A

# JOURNAL

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

OF THE

***DIOCESE OF ILLINOIS,***

HELD IN

**CHICAGO, THIRD AND FOURTH OF JUNE, 1839.**

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PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CHICAGO AMERICAN,

*Corner of Clarke and South Water Streets.*

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# JOURNAL

OF THE

## CONVENTION OF ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO June 3d, 1839.

*Monday Morning 9 o'clock.*

The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Illinois assembled, according to adjournment, this 3rd day of June, 1839.

The religious solemnities, preparatory to the business of the Convention, were celebrated on Sunday, the day previous, according to usage.

Morning Prayers were read by *Rev. Mr. YOUNG.*

Right Rev. *PHILANDER CHASE, D.D.*, presiding. The following Clergymen, canonically resident in the Diocese, and entitled to seats in the Convention, were present :

*Rev. Samuel Chase, Ottawa ; Rev. Andrew H. Cornish, Juliet ; Rev. James de Pui, Dixonville ; Rev. Charles Dresser, Springfield ; Rev. Isaac W. Hallam, Chicago ; Rev. James Young, Quincy.*

*Rev. Messrs. Douglas, Darrow and Sellwood* were absent.

*Rev. Messrs. Dresser and Hallam* were appointed a Committee on Testimonials of Lay Delegates, and reported the following persons as having presented certificates of their elections, duly authenticated :

*Silas W. Sherman,  
John H. Kinzie,  
S. J. Sherwood,*

} *St. James Church, Chicago.*

**ON MOTION**—The parishes of *St. Paul's Church* in Geneva and *St. Charles*, and of *Zion's Church* Menelon Adams county, were admitted into union with the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese—having complied with the canon defining the mode of admission.

The committee on testimonials further reported *Andrew Cornish* as a duly elected Delegate from *S. Paul's church* Geneva and *St. Charles*, to represent the same in this convention.

ON MOTION—The convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary—whereupon Rev. S. Chase was elected.

On the call of the House, the Rules of order adopted at the previous convention, as the standing rules of the convention, were read.

#### THE BISHOP'S ADDRESS.

VERY DEAR BRETHREN:—

My attendance on the General Convention in Philadelphia last year; the great distance in going and coming necessarily requiring so much time; the very early setting in of the rigors of last winter; and the many cares of this spring in sowing and planting the seed necessary for the subsistence of my family, have prevented me from travelling and visiting my diocese as much as I wished.—What I have left undone in one respect, however, I have tried to do in another. My body failing in activity, my mind, I trust has not been idle. My correspondence, having in view the promotion of Religion and Learning in my diocese, has greatly increased.—From this some good has resulted; and, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, more is expected.

Immediately after the rising of the Convention at Rushville, I went to Beardstown where I preached and performed divine service in the evening. Next morning I proceeded to Springfield, where I preached and confirmed. The Sunday following I was at Jacksonville, where I preached and administered the holy communion. Here, also, I expected to ordain, by dispensation, a candidate for holy orders; but something occurring which, in my judgment, required deliberation and the advice of my brethren, the Bishops, I deferred; and, in the mean time, the candidate, Mr. Owen Lovejoy, requested me to take his name from the list of candidates; and this I accordingly did.

From Jacksonville I proceeded to Edwardsville, where I preached and confirmed. At this place, also, I admitted a Deacon to the order of Priests—the Rev. Joseph L. Darrow. The Rev. John Batchelder presented the candidate.

At Marine Settlement I baptized a number, and administered the holy sacrament of the Lord's Supper. On the way to Collinsville, another parish under the care of the Rev. Joseph L. Darrow, I preached, confirmed, and administered the holy communion.

The appointment of the time for the consecration of the Church at Quincy having been previously made, my stay, as I passed through Alton, was necessarily very short. I expected to hold service and preach in that city, but, the boat calling, I was obliged to leave the conduct of the divine services to the Rev. P. R. Minard, who had kindly accompanied me from St. Louis.

On the 25th of June I consecrated St. John's Church at Quincy, and administered the Supper of the Lord. From Quincy I went to Columbus, a few miles distant, where I preached in the evening.—Thence I proceeded to Pittsfield, in Pike county, where I preached in the evening. Here assurances were given me that lots for a



Church and parsonage would shortly be given me in trust. This promise has since been fulfilled by a generous individual living in N. York. On my way to the Illinois River I held divine service and preached.

Considering the whole county of Peoria as under my parochial care, the duties of preaching every Sunday ; of attending to my farm for a living, that I might leave my family in comfortable circumstances, occupied my whole attention till I set off for the General Convention. On my way thither I preached at Ottawa, in this Diocese, and at Edwardsburg, in Michigan; at Cleveland and Steubenville, in Ohio. When I arrived at Chambersburg, I spent the Sunday at the Hotel, suffering from ill health. The Rev. Mr. Swan, of Ohio, was with me.

In attending the General Convention, most happy was I in witnessing great harmony in all their proceedings, and singular wisdom in all their determinations. Long may it be so with that venerable body. May the spirit of Peace dwell in their midst, and the God of TRUTH evermore mightily defend them from error, sin, schism and death; all of which evils, being the offspring of *Pride*, let us pray God to make both them and us like the divine head of the universal Church, Jesus Christ, "meek and lowly of heart."

My visit to N. York was from necessity but momentary. On my return, passing through, I preached in Philadelphia, and the next Sunday I was in the city of Pittsburg, and officiated there all day.—The next public duty was performed in Massillon, in Ohio: services both morning and evening, in the absence of the Rector, were performed by me, at his request.

A rapid journey took me, by the canal and steamboat, to Detroit, where, in the evening, by particular invitation of the Right Rev. Bishop McCoskry, I preached to an attentive congregation. The Sunday following I spent at *Gilead*, a name which I gave it when no human being was there, for many miles around, save myself, one other family, and the savages of the forest. Here I again preached and performed the duties of the Church. Here now is my eldest living son, for his health and my support, working on my farm, in the bosom of a thickly settled country.

The next Sunday I reached this City, Chicago, and officiated all day, administering the holy Communion and Confirmation. It was here, also, I met the Rev. Mr. Cornish who, in the absence of the Rector, had been performing divine service several Sundays. This Rev. gentleman, in Deacon's orders, having been appointed a missionary, I thought proper to place at Juliet and Lockport; I trust much to their mutual satisfaction.

The following Sunday I was at my humble home, the Robin's Nest, where, and in the neighborhood, I continued my parochial labours, preaching every Sunday and administering the holy communion every month. During the winter I preached at Charleston, a few miles distant, and baptized a number of children. In Peoria, also, I occasionally preached, and lately I visited Pekin, one of the

parishes of the Rev. Mr. Douglass. Here I preached and confirmed, and administered the holy communion.

On the 3d of April, 1839, by the grace of God, I laid the corner-stone of the Chapel and School house of Jubilee College, now, after many painful efforts, located on section twenty-six, of township ten north, and six east of the fourth principal meridian line of Illinois.

Between three and four hundred persons attended to witness this solemnity. Never in my life had I greater occasion for devout joy and holy gratitude. The spot seemed formed by the hand of a kind Providence for study and holy contemplation; for delight and salubrity; situate in the bosom of a large domain, all the property of the nascent institution, of the richest soil and finished beauty. The day was fine and the whole audience most attentive and respectful.

The morning prayer had been read and the sermon preached at the Robin's Nest by the Rev. Messrs Douglass and Chase; and the congregation, having come a mile in solemn procession, seemed to wait with uncommon awe and feeling expectancy.

As we gathered around the chosen spot where, in future ages, so many immortal beings, it is hoped, will be taught and "*trained in the way they should go,*" and, by the grace of God in Jesus Christ, fitted for eternal glory, who could refrain from the most heart-stirring reflections? In view of the immense good which such an institution may be the means of effecting to the generations yet to come, it is the part of sound faith to trust that God was with us, and that he will indeed bless the undertaking made in his name and in entire dependence on his grace.

In the address, prepared and delivered by the founder, on this occasion, the nature and end of the Institution are purposely specified as follows:

"Its nature is theological; its end is the salvation of the souls of men by means of a *Christian Education*. It is to be a school of the prophets. Ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ are to be trained here. This is the *primary* object, and without attaining this it will fail of its end—which end, therefore, is never to be "merged" in any other. Persons of all liberal professions in the arts and sciences are also to be educated here, provided they be willing to be taught the religion of the God of Christians, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the Eloim, the Jehovah. All things being conducted according to the well known principles and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, the design and will of the Donors and Founders of this Institution will be answered, and not otherwise. This explicit declaration, made by the founder thus publicly, enables him to repose with confidence on the principle of common law, viz: that Eleemosynary Institutions must, in an especial manner, show that they use their funds according to the known will and design of their founders. The interest of the human race requires this."

The declaration, made on this occasion, further sets forth, that the Convention of Illinois have the confirming power to all nominations

of the Trustees, and the deciding in cases of a difference of opinion in regard to the appointment of the professors and other officers of this institution. They have also the power of conducting impeachments, duly made, for the breach of trust, before the civil authorities. These are the incipient steps towards the founding of a *primitive Christian Institution*, for this great, and by the God of nature, this highly favored State of Illinois. That they embrace a subject of all things most important, is obvious to every reflecting christian mind.

There is no truth concerning the welfare of man more plain from reason and experience than that which is asserted in the foundation of this institution as its governing principle;—that “man, being immortal, to make him wise only for this life is not worth the pains; but to make him wise unto eternal life is worthy of all efforts.” The world, and all it contains, is not to be regarded when set in competition with this. Human learning, without a divine principle to guide it, is like a ship in a storm, without a compass on the boundless ocean. Reason, like the helm, may turn the vessel; but what shall be done in the dark night, amidst impending dangers? The Lamp of life, the light of God’s word pointing out the great governing principle, the *DIVINE WILL*—IT only can show whither we must steer our course or perish. All Christian institutions, therefore, should be founded on the principle of rendering *Religion* paramount to all other things: for what doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world—the world of knowledge—and the world of knowledge gain the whole world of riches and honors, and he lose his own soul? “Thou fool,” “thou fool!” will be his portion of shame and derision forever and ever. It was on this principle of keeping Religion in its place, i.e. of securing to religious learning a *paramount* claim to all other branches of science, and that God’s ministers should direct, in this all important matter, that the Institution in Ohio was founded. It was, and is, and ever must be, a “Theological Seminary.” This is its name in law. That of “*Kenyon College*” was simply a privilege implying no corporate power; a privilege given it subsequently, only as the style of literary degrees, which the Bishop, as President of the Theological Institution, with the professors of the same, was and is empowered to confer. And when this principle was impugned by those who had not sufficiently studied its nature, and the self destroying principle was asserted that “the Theological Seminary was lost and merged” by subsequent acts, the founder thought himself bound to maintain that which, from having originated the whole, and collected all the funds, he knew to be the truth; the very opposite of this. And although he could not then, when in his place as Bishop of Ohio, by reason of great misunderstanding of the nature of the case and every thing said on it, maintain his course *in peace*, and without great danger of losing sight of that charity, without which our religion is nothing; yet *now*, when in the act of founding another Institution on the self same principles, it seems to be his bounden duty, as both the founder and Visitor of that Seminary, to declare



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their similarity : and to express a hope that the governing power of the "Theological Seminary of Ohio," an Institution which cost the founder so much time, so many tears, so great amount of his own substance and that of his relatives and friends, so much of his own personal labor, and comfort and health, will expunge from their records of 1831, the obnoxious principle which is alluded to above, and which gave birth to all the evil, viz: the principle of "merging the Seminary in the College." Let them wipe this stain from their pages, and return to the first principles of the founder.

That the Church and christian persons should be called on to contribute, and that the Ministers of Christ should weary their lives out in collecting means to educate the youth of our country in merely secular learning, to the exclusion of Christian theology, and the knowledge necessary for the salvation of the soul, seems an anomaly. A little reflection would make all serious people, especially the ministers of Christ, cease from so vain a pursuit. Wherever it has been pursued the worst consequences have followed. In our own country, where religion has not been chiefly attended to, our young men have grown up to resemble those of whom the apostle speaks: *atheoi*—atheists. They are "in the world," but "without God." Living as if there were no God to bring them to an account for their deeds. Had the Church of God done her duty; had she insisted that religion, as it is the one thing needful, should also be the first thing attended to in the education of youth; had she not consented to leave this all important matter unperformed, or performed by those who were not shepherds of the flock; had she inculcated the knowledge of divine things with the same zealous care with which she has insisted on the study of the natural sciences, the state of our country would be far different from what it is. Good men would not have cause to weep at the downhill course into which all things are running. The good old way—the way pursued by the Apostles of insisting that men, with all their house, should be baptized; all should be brought into the Church of God, and there trained in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that children should be fed with the milk, and the adults should partake of the strong meat of God's word; this way, alas! has been neglected, and others, for a time more engaging, suited to men's vain feelings, have been pursued.—It was an awful epoch when this began to be exemplified in those who professed to conduct the destinies of the Church; when men's ways were preferred to the ways and sacraments of God. And it is heart-rending to behold now the consequences. A vast majority of our country are *out of covenant* with their maker, and are uninstructed in the first rudiments of the Christian faith; not understanding even the terms in which religion is inculcated. If you call upon them to repent of their sins—to learn their fallen state by nature, and to implore the mercy of God in Jesus Christ...they tell you they know nothing of the necessity of either; they never bound themselves to any religion, and never intend to do so. Most of our youth cannot say the commandments; and those who can, have never



heard them so expounded as to show the guilt of their transgression. They have been told there is some *short way* of "getting religion," and they hope to find it without all this trouble.

And who is there that shall contend, and what shall be his armor with which he opposes so growing an evil? The answer must be: it is the faithful minister of the Lord Jesus Christ, and his weapons are the Word and Sacraments. He is to stand, in these days of the giants of human invention, as David stood before Goliath, clad in the armor of primitive truth. He is to go back to first principles, and choose him stones from the brook, where have flowed, in the purest ages, the waters of life to thousands of thousands of just men made perfect who are now in heaven; with these he is to smite this boasting Philistine, who hath defied the armies of the living God; and with these he shall prevail.

The education of childhood and youth according to the design of the church in her baptismal service; the "bearing of one another's burdens" in the duties of seeing that each other's children are taught "all things that a christian ought to know and believe to his soul's health," and "thus fulfilling the law of Christ" as is contemplated in her requirements of Sponsors in baptism, I have always regarded among the *chief means* of grace, if not the only way by which we can reach that object which is most desired—the health and vigor of the Church of Christ as in primitive days. It seems a dispensation of a most merciful Providence that the Sunday School Union of our Church have, at this critical juncture, taken this all important subject seriously in hand. Tho' late, it cheers the heart to witness their able and zealous example in the path of duty: and I think it my duty to recommend, for serious consideration, the address of that body contained in the Sunday School Visiter for the month of April last, to the minds of my beloved Presbyters, and to the Diocese in general. If that periodical publication continue in the course pointed out in this address, most sincerely do I bid it God-speed—and look to it as an instrument in the hands of Providence to dispel much of the cloud of spiritual ignorance that now hangs over our land. Let us but go back to our first principles and, under God, we shall not be left to mourn the waste places of our Zion. Let us bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Let the Church, their mother, give the milk of God's word to her babes, and they, in turn, will honor her institutions, and preserve her from premature decay. This is the way to enjoy those blessed times so devoutly prayed for by all true believers, when all shall know the Lord and all who hope for salvation through the atonement of Jesus Christ will deem it their duty to live in constant preparation to receive the *Lord's Supper* and "meet together every Lord's day" for prayer and to "break the bread of life."

On the twelfth of May I confirmed, at the Robin's Nest. The *parochial report* of this parish, viz: of "Christ Church and St. Johns Church Upper and Lower Kikapoo," is as follows:

Baptisms,	Adults,	-	-	-	-	1
	Infants,	-	-	-	-	14
Confirmations,	-	-	-	-	-	5
Communicants,	-	-	-	-	-	31
Funerals,	-	-	-	-	-	3

On the 19th of May I was at Ottawa, where I preached and administered the holy Sacrament and confirmed.

On the 23rd and 24th I baptized four children in the neighborhood of Kankakee.

26. Preached in the morning and administered the holy Communion and confirmation at Juliet, and in the evening I preached at Lockport. On the 27th at Naperville, on the DuPage river, and on the 28th at Geneva, on the Fox river. At this latter place, on the morning of the 29th of May, I organized a parish by the name of "St. Paul's parish at St. Charles and Geneva, Kane county, Illinois." On the morning and evening of the same day, also, I preached at St. Charles.

The following is a list of the Clergy in Illinois entitled to a seat in the Convention, viz:

Rev. Samuel Chase,	Rev. Joseph L. Darrow,
" Andrew H. Cornish,	" Wm. Douglass,
" James Depui,	" Isaac W. Hallam,
" Charles Dresser,	" John Sellwood,
	" James Young,

Of the Rev. Mr. Dewolf no official information has been received since his appointment as missionary for this diocese. Letters addressed to him have been sent to me, but not knowing his residence, I could not forward them. Perhaps the letters which it was his duty to send to me, giving the necessary information of his movements have miscarried.

A Rev. Gentleman, in Priest's Orders, by the name of Bledsloe, I hear, was officiating for several months at Alton, but gave no notice of his proceedings to the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese. The Secretary has informed me that he has left that parish and the duties of the ministry. I believe he belongs to the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Ohio.

The canonical residence of the Rev. Messrs. J. Batchelder, Benj. Hutchins and E. G. Gear, is by their own request changed from Illinois to the jurisdiction of Bishop Kemper. The vacant places are

Alton,	Madison County
Albion	Edwards County
Mount Carmel	Wabash County
Pittsfield	Pike County
Geneva and St. Charles	Kane County
Rushville	Schuyler County
Galena	Joe Davis County
Stephenson	Rock Island County.
Jacksonville	Morgan County
Naperville	DuPage County
Savannah	Joe Davis County.

Soon, also, will be vacant that most interesting parish of Christ Church at Ottawa, La Salle County, by the removal of the Rev.

Samuel Chase, to take charge of the school of Jubilee College. Having persuaded so many, by the preaching of the truth, to love the ways of our primitive Zion, who before were indifferent to her claims, and having gathered a congregation of great promise, Mr. S. Chase will leave that place with the most affectionate regards of the greatest portion of the inhabitants of Ottawa; and, in view of the great good he might do by his continuance there, his removal will occasion the deepest regret in my bosom. But a greater and a paramount object having been long in view, the same cannot be relinquished. His superior skill in teaching and governing the youthful mind, compels me to retain him as the chief instrument of completing the foundation of Jubilee College, and rearing her walls to the glory of God. Would that I could find his successor at Ottawa!

What is said of the faithfulness of the Rev. Mr. S. Chase as a labourer in this western field, may be said of *all* the Rev. Gentlemen under the pay of the Missionary Society in this Diocese; and for the information of the Committee, I think it my duty to state what all on the ground here know to be true, that these stipendaries are faithful and true: And could the gentlemen who have the distribution of the oblations of the Church, witness with their own eyes the indefatigable labours of the pioneers of the Church—could they see how difficult it is to break up the fallow ground of this far Western world, more waste, and sometimes more abounding with unyielding prejudices than heathen lands, they would, I trust, be satisfied that the small stipend afforded them, in some instances not one fourth of their expenses, is dearly earned. If the fruits of their labour are not so conspicuous and forward and ripe, at present, we should remember, and I beg the Committee to remember, that it is the privilege of man to plant only, but the honour of giving the harvest is reserved to the Heavenly Husbandman. Even Paul could but plant, and Apollos could but water; it was “God only who gave the increase.” But who in this case would let Paul starve or suffer Apollos to shiver in the cold wind in need of a garment, when his day’s labour was faithfully done. If ever there was a class of men that earned—doubly and three doubly earned the bread with which their hunger is appeased, the cries of their little ones for food and raiment are satisfied, that class is the Western Missionary of the Protestant Episcopal church. By far the greater portion of these receive not so much, put all together, as do the ordinary mechanics: and the greater half even of this, does not come from the Church in any way. The rest they procure by manual or mental exertion at hours when many who think they are well supplied, are asleep. These are not the statements of conjecture or forms of fancy. For the truth of what I say I have the experience of many a year in the Western ministry: and the examples of many in my eye who were the founders of Churches in the wilderness; from Father Nash of Otsego Co., N. York, of blessed memory, down to the suffering worthy few who now labour in this neglected, yet most important Missionary Field of Illinois.



I have received reports from three Rev. Presbyters of the Diocese entitled to seats in this Convention, assigning reasons why they are not present. One is on account of ill health, the others are perfectly satisfactory.

That this Convention may be conducted in harmony and to the glory of God is the devout prayer of your affectionate Pastor.

PHILANDER CHASE, *Bp. of Ill.*

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At the time of the last convention of this Diocese in Rushville, I administered the Sacrament of Baptism to an adult person, and admitted to the order of Priests the following Deacons, viz ;—the Rev. Samuel Chase ; the Rev. James Young ; the Rev. John Sellwood.

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The parochial reports were then read by the Bishop, and directed to be inserted in the Journal.

*Rev. Samuel Chase, Missionary at Ottawa, reports*—That he regularly celebrated divine service and preached at Ottawa, with the exception of some few Sundays—having been prevented by the ill health of himself and family. He has, also, officiated occasionally in the vicinity, and preached once at Robins-nest, on the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the Chapel and School house of Jubilee college. The congregations at Ottawa have usually been large, and an increasing attachment to the church and her services has been manifested. A parish, under the name of Christ's church, Ottawa, has been duly organized. A flourishing Sunday school has been successfully established. Number of communicants 12 ; baptism 1 ; Sunday school scholars 35. He has solemnized 7 marriages, and attended 12 funerals.

*Andrew H. Cornish, Missionary at Juliet, respectfully reports:*

That he commenced his labors, as missionary, at this station, 28th Oct. 1838, and has since, by the grace of God, labored uninterruptedly at this and adjacent places.

The parish at Juliet have fitted up a very pleasant room, as a place of public worship ; and a Sunday school, embracing the children of the parish, and under the immediate supervision of its ministers, is now in successful operation.

In addition to his services at Juliet, the Missionary has regularly held a third service, on each Lord's day, at Lockport, a young but very promising village, four and a half miles from Juliet. The prospects of the church here are quite encouraging. Ignorance and prejudice cannot long withstand the force of truth.

He has also visited and officiated twice at Napersville, Geneva, St. Charles and Aurora, beautiful and promising little villages, situated, the first on the Du Page, and the three last on the Fox river, between fifteen and forty miles from Juliet. As the Bishop of the Diocese has recently visited three of these villages, and had opportunity of learning from personal observation, the prospects of the



Church in either of them, more respecting them need not here be said.

One service likewise has been held on a Sunday evening at a place eight miles south from Juliet, on the Du Page. The audience was large and attentive; and there is no doubt, that by timely and judicious effort, the lovely ways of the church might be recommended to the acceptance of a great portion of the inhabitants of that vicinity.

The Missionary has endeavored to teach the truth of God, as it is set forth and explained in the beautiful services of the Church, and it is gratifying to know that many have listened attentively to the word spoken, and joined with audible voices in the responses, to whom but yesterday, the formularies of the Church were unknown. Three were recently confirmed by the Bishop, and also received at his hands, the Holy Communion. The number of communicants belonging to the parish is twenty. Baptisms: Adult, 1—Infant 13. Funerals Attended 9—Marriages celebrated 3—Preached 85 times.

Yours with sentiments of esteem and regard.

ANDREW H. CORNISH.

RT. REV. P. CHASE D. D. Bishop &c.  
Chicago June 1, 1839.

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DIXON MAY 27, 1839.

RT.-REV. SIR:—I left Alton my former station in July last, and repaired to this place having preached on an intervening Lord's day at Jacksonville, then destitute of a minister of our Church. Owing to the want of health I have not been capable of doing as much in the work of my office as I could have wished to have done. I have however been enabled to officiate once or twice on the Lord's day with some few exceptions. We have as yet erected no house of public worship. The minds of the community have been in such a state of uncertainty and excitement with respect to the location of the rail road, which is to pass near us, that they have deferred the erection of buildings of any description until that location is finally determined. Besides there is a great want of pecuniary means. A building has been offered us at a very reasonable price which will answer the purpose of a Church for the present. It will accommodate the part of the congregation that live on the North side of the river. Another room on the opposite side is also offered to our use free of expense. I have often felt grieved and discouraged to witness the indifference to matters of religion and eternal moment which prevails in our community. We formed ourselves in August last into a Protestant Episcopal congregation under the name of St. Luke's Church. Dixon is in communion with the P. E. Church in the U. States of America and hopes as such to be admitted into the Convention of the Diocese. I have administered 2 infant baptisms and have officiated at 2 weddings and at 3 adult and 2 infant funerals.

JAMES DE PUI

*Rector and Missionary of St. Luke's Church, Dixon.*

*The Rector of St. Paul's Church, Springfield, reports—*That, with the exception of seven Sundays on which he was confined by sickness and three on which he officiated elsewhere, he has performed divine service and preached in this Parish twice every Sunday during the year. The Church was also opened for a week day lecture during Lent. In respect to attendance, when the weather was favourable, he has sometimes had much to encourage him; in regard to the spiritual improvement of the congregation, little. The Church reported as being in progress at the last convention, has since been completed, and opened for divine service since August. A Sunday School has been in operation the last two months, but is still small.

During the year, he has baptised five infants of which two were in Morgan Co.—Solemnised six Marriages, of which two were in Jacksonville, and officiated at three funerals. The present number of communicants is fifteen—two having removed into the parish, one died and one withdrawn, since the last convention. He is also acquainted with five other communicants not within the limits of any organized Parish, and several families attached to the Church whom it is designed to visit as often as circumstances may permit. He has occasionally preached in other places but from sickness and want of facilities for travelling much less frequently than he could have wished.

CHARLES DRESSER.

*The Rector of St. James' Parish, Chicago, reports—*Bapt. (adults) 4, infants 27; Marriages 7; Burials 7; Confirmations 15; of Communicants 5 have removed, 1 has died, 1 withdrawn, 23 have been added, present number 56. During the Meeting of the Gen. Convention in Philadelphia I was attacked by severe illness and detained from my charge nearly four months. Our Church was closed only a few Sundays. The Rev. Andrew Cornish officiated a part of the time; the Clergy of the nearest Towns lent their aid. Visitors afforded an occasional supply. We have lost by death our Communicant Mr. J. W. C. Coffin. He was a delegate to the Convention of this diocese in Rushville and never recovered from the illness with which he was then attacked, though by divine goodness he was enabled to reach his home. In him the Parish has lost an active and useful officer and the Rector a faithful friend and Counsellor. Both Church and Congregation have continued to increase, though circumstances have not been as favorable as in past years.

Very respectfully Yours  
ISAAC W. HALLAM.

TO THE BISHOP, CLERGY AND LAITY,

*In Convention at Chicago, Illinois, June 3, 1839.*

Since the last Convention of this Diocese I have been transferred from the parish of Christ's, Church, Rushville, of which I then had charge, to that of St. John's, Quincy,—where I have officiated since the first of Oct. 1838.

Before leaving Rushville, however, and subsequent to the last report of that parish to the Convention, I, on one occasion, baptized six infants, the children of three French families resident eight miles from town; and, on another, administered the same sacrament to three children of one of my parishioners privately, in consequence of the extreme illness of the youngest child, which was buried a few days after. I officiated at the funeral, and performed the same melancholy office for another member of the same family, about two weeks after the death of the child.

Towards the close of September, being invited to the Rectorship of St. John's Church, Quincy, I accepted it and entered upon the duties of the parish on the first day of October—having the sanction of the Bishop to the change of station.

And, after eight months' acquaintance with the parish, I am truly gratified to be able to say, that the hopes and anticipations first entertained for the success of the Church there are as bright as ever.

That we have not been without the blessing of God, is evinced by the increasing devotion and piety of the communicants, and the growing seriousness of those without. Five persons have been added to the Church, and are now waiting for confirmation; others have been spoken of; and when we shall be favored by a visit from the Bishop, the number will be increased. I have baptized one adult and two infants, and succeeded in reviving the Sabbath School. I opened it with two or three children, and on the next Sabbath there were seven or eight, and two teachers—now we have three respectable classes, comprising from fifteen to twenty pupils and three teachers.

During the Spring I officiated at one marriage, and one funeral.

I have administered the holy communion regularly on the first Sunday of every month, and preached twice on the Sabbath, until the past month, when severe illness limited me to one sermon.

JAMES YOUNG,

*Rector and Missionary at Quincy, Adams County, Illinois.*

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NEW YORK MAY 21st 1839.

DEAR BISHOP :—As I cannot be present at the convention in Chicago without failing to accomplish the effect of my journey, I have rather reluctantly consented to deny myself that pleasure. I trust by remaining here a few weeks longer I shall secure the means requisite to ensure the erection of a cheap though neat little Church in Edwardsville and Collinsville. Should I succeed in this I shall have done more towards the permanent establishment of our Zion in that part of the diocese than I could possibly have accomplished in the same time by remaining at home. Before setting out on the journey I had been officiating regularly at my station dividing my time between Edwardsville, Collinsville and Marine as mentioned in my last report; there have been during the year, five persons confirmed; Eleven Baptised; two Adults and nine children. I have attended four funerals and preached at my station and elsewhere



about one hundred discourses. Should the Convention choose to appoint Collinsville or Edwardsville as the place of holding the next annual Convention, I think I can ensure them at least kind entertainment and a Church of some kind in which to meet. The number of our Communicants at present is fourteen.

I am Dear Bishop with great regard and esteem Yours &c.

JOSEPH L. DARROW

*Missionary at Collinsville and parts adjacent.*

REV WM. DOUGLASS' Report to the Bishop, dated Tremont, 20th May 1839.

Since the meeting of the Convention of this Diocese at Rushville in June last I have officiated regularly in Tremont and Pekin every Lord's day except five when prevented by indisposition. At Tremont divine service was celebrated three fourths of the time, at Pekin one fourth, the above five Sundays excepted. The congregation of Christ Church Tremont has lost by removal four families of Episcopalians, and five other individuals belonging to the congregation. Our services are generally well attended, though the major part of the people are not Episcopalians. At this place I have baptised six infants and one adult; solemnised two marriages; attended the funeral of three infants; Communicants, 8 removed; one added; present number fourteen. At Pekin have baptised four infants; no marriages or funerals; one person has been confirmed. Number of Communicants—three removed, one added; present number two. At this place several belonging to other denominations commune with us.

The Inhabitants of Pekin are desirous of securing the services of the Church at least every alternate Lord's day, and the ladies always antecedent in benevolent designs, (to their honour be it recorded) have handed round a subscription, and obtained subscribers to a considerable amount towards remunerating a clergyman for such services. They have solicited me to devote to them one half of my time, and I have promised to comply with their reasonable request. Besides officiating at these two places on Sundays, I have had services on other days once in two weeks, at a settlement on Mud Creek 7 or 8 miles North of Tremont. At this place I have baptised one infant. Here also are five communicants of our Church.

MENDON, ADAMS COUNTY, ILL., MAY 22, 1839.

*Right Rev. Sir:*

In the Providence of God I am prevented from attending the approaching Convention. I am still afflicted with the fever & ague; I therefore send you my report:

From the time of making my last report up to October 1, 1838, I continued to labor at the Missionary station at Quincy, at which time the number of communicants was twenty-four, being double the number they were at the time of my taking charge of that station the preceding October. I then removed to the new missionary station at Mendon, where I had occasionally, while residing at Mendon,



preached.—Three-fourths of my time I devote to this place. A regular congregation has been collected. A church edifice is in progress, which, it is expected, will be opened for divine worship, this season. Last April a parish was organized by the name of Zion's Church. It is not yet twelve months since I first visited this village; at which time there resided here but two communicants of our Church who were numbered among those at Quincy. On my removal to this station, ten of the communicants of the church at Quincy, including those two, were transferred here; since which time there have been added: by removal from our church in another place, three; from the world, and another Christian denomination, eleven—making the present number twenty-four. I have officiated at the funeral of a child, and of an adult not of my parish. Baptisms, three children and one adult; total four. Families connected with the parish, about ten or twelve.

I have considerable encouragement to labor here; my hands have been held up by my people, and my spirits cheered in beholding what the Lord has graciously done for us. The prospect of further additions to the number of communicants, is quite encouraging. For what has been done here, I have very great reason to thank God and take courage.

One-fourth of my time, when in health, I devote to Warsaw, a town about twenty-five miles distant. No Episcopal clergyman had ever preached here before. A favorable disposition is manifested, by some, for attending our services; and I hope, by the blessing of God, the time is not far distant, when an Episcopal congregation will be collected, and souls gathered to the fold of Christ.

Columbus, a town about twelve miles distant, I visit on week days, when I have an opportunity. In consequence, however, of my long and severe sickness, and other circumstances, I have not been able to visit that place very often. The last time I was there, the congregation appeared to be the largest that had ever attended our services.

I remain, Right Reverend Sir, Yours respectfully,  
 RT. REV. P. CHASE, D.D. JOHN SELLWOOD.

Rev. Mr. Dresser gave notice, that, on the morrow, he would offer an amendment to canon 11, section 1.

Rev. Mr. Young gave notice, that, on the morrow, he would offer an amendment to canon 2, section 6.

Rev. Mr. Cornish gave notice, that, to-morrow, he would offer an amendment to canon 5.

On Motion—The convention proceeded to the election of a standing committee: whereupon, were elected,

Rev. Messrs. Dresser and Young, of the clergy, and

Mr. John H. Kinzie and Dr. T. Houghan, of the laity.

On Motion—The account of the Treasurer with the convention, for the year 1838, was referred to a committee, consisting of Rev. Mr. Young and Mr. J. H. Kinzie.

On Motion—The convention adjourned until half past two o'clock.

**MONDAY AFTERNOON, half past two o'clock.**

The convention met, pursuant to adjournment.

On motion—The Rev. Messrs. Hallam, Dresser and Cornish, and Messrs. John H. Kinzie and Andrew Cornish, were appointed a committee to take into consideration so much of the Bishop's address as related to the subject of Jubilee College, and report thereon.

On motion—The convention proceeded to the election of Delegates to the General Convention; whereupon, were elected, of the clergy, Rev. Messrs. Hallam, Chase, Dresser and Young, and of the Laity, Messrs. John H. Kinzie, Doct. T. Houghan, Doct. Gillette and F. C. Moore, Esq.

The committee, to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Diocese of Illinois, beg leave to report that they have examined the same, which shows a result as follows:

By balance on hand, \$1 43

To balance unpaid to F. C. Moore for printing  
as per account, \$45 88

For amount due Rev. S. Chase for postage as per  
account, 5——.50 88

Leaving a balance, due by the Diocese of Illinois,  
up to this date, of \$49 45

For the payment of which, they would respectfully recommend, that immediate measures be taken, by this convention, for the extinguishment of this debt.

From the assessments made last year, the following parishes have not paid in their respective amounts, to wit:

Trinity Church, Jacksonville, \$5	St. Paul's Church, Alton, \$5
Christ's Church, Rushville, 5	Christ's Church, Tremont, 5
Grace Church, Beardstown, 5	St. Jude's Church, Peoria, 5
Christ's Church, Juliet, 5	—

Making, in all, \$35

JAMES YOUNG.

On motion—The report of the committee was accepted.

The committee on the subject of provisions for clergymen's widows and orphans, appointed at the last convention, made the following report:

The Committee on the subject of a provision for clergymen's widows and orphans, in this Diocese, report, that they have not been able to prepare a constitution, as directed by the late convention at Rushville, and respectfully request further time.

J. W. HALLAM,  
CHARLES DRESSER,  
JAMES DE PUL,  
JOHN H. KINZIE,

On motion—The report was accepted.

On motion—The convention proceeded to the election of a Treasurer; whereupon, Samuel H. Treat was elected.

On motion—The convention proceeded to the consideration of the Constitution, proposed and approved at the last convention

On a call from the House, the former and proposed constitutions were read.

On motion—The further consideration of the proposed constitution was postponed until the morrow.

On motion—The convention adjourned until to-morrow at eight o'clock.

TUESDAY MORNING, *Eight o'clock.*

The convention met, pursuant to adjournment. Morning Prayers were read by the Bishop.

Rev. Mr. Dresser, pursuant to notice given by him yesterday, offered the following amendment to section 1st, canon 11th.

*Resolved*—That section 1st, canon 11th, be amended, by striking out the word "three," wherever it occurs, and substituting the word "two;" which amendment was unanimously adopted.

On motion—*Resolved*: That the parish of St. Luke's Church, Dixonville, Lee county, be received into union with the Protestant Episcopal Church of this Diocese—the canon, regulating the mode of admission, having been complied with.

Rev. Mr. Young, pursuant to notice given by him yesterday, offered the following amendment to section 6th, canon 2d.

*Resolved*, That section 6th, canon 2d, be amended by striking out the word 'three,' and inserting the word 'two;' which amendment was lost.

Rev. Mr. Cornish, pursuant to notice given by him yesterday, offered the following amendment to canon 5:

*Resolved*, That canon 5 be altered, by adding, immediately after the clause "a senior and junior warden," the words "who shall be communicants;" and after the clause "can be had," instead of the words "who may fill," &c., the words "and the vestry may fill," &c.; which amendment was carried in the affirmative.

On motion—The convention adjourned for divine service, and the ordination of Rev. A. H. Cornish,—to assemble at 3 o'clock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 3 O'CLOCK.

The convention assembled pursuant to adjournment.

The standing committee made the following report:

That, during the past year, they signed the usual testimonials in favor of Rev. Dr. Delancy, Bishop elect of Western New York.

(Signed,)

CHARLES DRESSER, *Chairman.*

Mr. John H. Kinzie having resigned as a member of the standing committee, S. H. Treat, Esq., was elected to fill the vacancy.

On motion—*Resolved*, That the amendment to canon 5, adopted this morning, be re-considered; which motion was lost.

The committee appointed upon so much of the Bishop's address as related to the subject of Jubilee college, reported as follows:

The committee appointed to take into consideration so much of the Bishop's address as relates to Jubilee college report, that they have had the same under consideration, and as an expression of their con-



fidence in its venerable founder, as well as in its beneficial influence upon the interests and prospects of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Illinois, respectfully submit to the convention the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That this Convention have heard with lively interest and satisfaction the statements of the Right Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, in reference to the measures adopted by him, for the establishment therein of an Institution for the promotion of religion, and learning, in connection with the church, to be known as Jubilee College, and that, with the fullest confidence in the great and increasing benefits to result from the establishment of such an institution, the same be commended to the patronage and support of all the friends of Religion and the Church, both here and elsewhere.

REV. I. W. HALLAM,

J. H. KINZIE,

" C. DRESSER,

Dr. A. CORNISH.

" A. H. CORNISH,

On motion, *Resolved*, That the above report be accepted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the secretary of the convention be instructed to cause 200 copies of the Journal, and 150 copies extra of the Bishop's address to be printed, and that the Parishes in union with the convention, be each assessed ten dollars to defray the expense, and that he transmit ten copies to each of the organized Parishes in the diocese, and one copy to each of the Bishops and the general periodicals of our church.

On motion—*Resolved*, That the Secretary, in the absence of the Treasurer, be authorised to receive assessments, and pay debts, requiring immediate attention.

On motion—*Resolved*, That the convention proceed to the consideration of the constitution proposed and adopted at the last convention.

On motion—*Resolved*, That the Fourth article of the said constitution be amended by inserting, after the word "clergymen," in lines 9th and 11th, the words "of said church;" and striking out the words "duly incorporated."

On motion—*Resolved*, That the aforesaid constitution, as now amended, be laid over for adoption at the next annual convention.

On motion—*Resolved*, That the annual convention of this diocese for 1840 be held on the 1st Monday in June, at Jubilee college, Peoria county.

After some appropriate collects, by the Bishop, the convention adjourned.

PHILANDER CHASE, }  
BISHOP OF ILLINOIS. }

SAMUEL CHASE,

*Secretary of the Convention.*



## LIST OF THE CLERGY AND PARISHES.

Right Rev. Philander Chase, D.D., Christ's Church and St. John's  
Church, Upper and Lower Kickapoo,

Rev. Samuel Chase,	Christ's Church, Ottawa,
" Andrew H. Cornish,	" Juliet,
" Joseph L. Darrow,	" Collinsville,
" William Douglass,	" Tremont,
" James Depui,	St. Luke's Church, Dixon,
" Charles Dresser,	St. Paul's Church, Springfield,
" Isaac W. Hallam,	St. Jame's Church, Chicago,
" John Sellwood,	Zion's Church, Mendon,
" James Young,	St. John's Church, Quincy.

The following Parishes are *vacant* :

Alton, Madison County,	Albion, Edwards County,
Mount Carmel, Wabash "	Pittsfield, Pike "
Geneva and "	Rushville, Schuyler "
St. Charles, Kane "	Galena, Joe Davis "
Stephenson, Rock Island "	Jacksonville, Morgan "
Naperville, Dupage "	Savannah, Joe Davis "

## STANDING COMMITTEE.

Of the Clergy,—Rev. Messrs. Dresser and Young,

Of the Laity,—Mr. S. H. Treat, Esq., and Dr. T. Houghan.







# **NOTICE.**

The next Annual Convention of the Laity will be held at Jubilee College, Peoria County, on the first Monday in June, 1840.

SAMUEL CHASE, Secretary of Convention.



